

# Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit (January 2021)

## **Section 1: Your details**

**EIA lead Officer:** Peter Rogan, Leaving Care Service Manager

**Email address:** peterrogan@wirral.gov.uk

**Head of Section:** Paul Smith, Head of Service Integrated Learning, Skills & Employment

**Chief Officer:** Kerry Mehta, Assistant Director Childrens Social Care

**Directorate:** Children, Families & Education

**Date:** 12/7/2023

## **Section 2: What Council proposal is being assessed?**

The Wirral Care Leaver's Local offer has been reviewed and refreshed to better reflect the support and opportunities available from the council and wider support agencies.

As corporate parents, it is our responsibility to make sure care leavers know what services are available to them, and what they can expect to receive.

The local offer for care leavers relates to the following six key areas, these include:

- 1) Health and wellbeing
- 2) Relationships
- 3) Education and training
- 4) Employment
- 5) Accommodation
- 6) Participation in society

**Section 2a: Will this EIA be submitted to a Committee meeting?**

Yes, Corporate Parenting Panel, 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published on the Council's website

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments>

**Section 3: Does the proposal have the potential to affect.....** (please tick relevant boxes)

- Services**
- The workforce**
- Communities**
- Other** (please state eg: Partners, Private Sector, Voluntary & Community Sector)

If you have ticked one or more of above, please go to section 4.

- None** (please stop here and email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to [engage@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:engage@wirral.gov.uk) for publishing)

**Section 4:**

**Could the proposal have a positive or negative impact on any protected groups (age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex; sexual orientation)?**

**You may also want to consider socio-economic status of individuals. We encourage services to consider the impact on those who serve and who have served in the armed forces and their families, in accordance with the Armed Forces Covenant**

**Please list in the table below and include actions required to mitigate any potential negative impact.**

<b>Which group(s) of people could be affected</b>	<b>Potential positive or negative impact</b>	<b>Action required to mitigate any potential negative impact</b>	<b>Lead person</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>
Care Leavers aged 16 to 25	Positive impact – sharing information about the services and support they can access. Information will be available in different languages and formats upon request and within a reasonable timeframe	Ensure full access, marketing and promotion	Peter Rogan	Introduce from August 2023	None
All	Positive - Care Leavers will be allocated a Personal Assistant (PA) who will give advice on a range of issues from accommodation, employment, training, education and general support.	PA's will be trained in equality issues and will ensure that the service is as accessible as possible and will offer a bespoke service to Care Leavers who have protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010	Peter Rogan	Introduce from August 2023	None
Disability	Positive – As part of the Local Offer, specialist teams are available to help Care	Specialist teams can offer support around social care,	Peter Rogan	Introduce	None

	Leavers with a disability or a Education Health Care Plan ( EHCP)	money matters, health provision and transport etc and can offer a bespoke service and signpost to other services available. This support is also available to unaccompanied asylum seeking children, those in contact with the criminal justice system, younger parents or anyone having personal issues		from August 2023	
All	“ Our Space “ is an offer of support, activities, employment and advice resources which is staffed by a duty teams of PA’s during weekday working hours.	PA’s offer a bespoke service which takes protected characteristics into account to provide an accessible service	Peter Rogan	Introduce from August 2023	None
All	The Local Offer also includes an independent advocacy resource from Barnardo’s which is separate from Children’s Services	Barnardo’s are responsible for providing an accessible advocacy service	Peter Rogan	Introduce from August 2023	None
All	A Care Leavers and Children and Children in Care Council is available and is crucial in developing services	The groups take personal experiences into account. Care Leavers are encouraged to take part to ensure their views are heard by decision makers	Peter Rogan	Introduce from August 2023	None

**Section 4a: Where and how will the above actions be monitored?**

- The effective introduction of the Local Offer will be assessed and supported by the Leaving Care Personal Advisors
- The Children in Care and Care Leavers Council will review the Local Offer annual for its relevance and access

**Section 4b: If you think there is no negative impact, what is your reasoning behind this?**

The Local Offer is concerned with pulling together the support arrangements - around 6 key themes as detailing in the introduction – for Wirral care leavers

**Section 5: What research / data / information have you used in support of this process?**

Statutory guidance for local authorities and information from the National Leaving Care Benchmarking Forum.

**Section 6: Are you intending to carry out any consultation with regard to this Council proposal?**

**Yes** – Consultation with care leavers through the Wirral Care Leavers Council

**Section 7: How will consultation take place and by when?**

Face to face consultation was undertaken with members of the Wirral Care Leavers Council and took place in April 2023 and the final version presented back in May 2023. The consultation sessions were facilitated by Leaving Care and the Participation & Engagement Teams.

Before you complete your consultation, please email your preliminary EIA to [engage@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:engage@wirral.gov.uk) via your Chief Officer in order for the Council to ensure it is meeting it's legal publishing requirements. The EIA will need to be published with a note saying we are awaiting outcomes from a consultation exercise.

Once you have completed your consultation, please review your actions in section 4. Then email this form to your Chief Officer who needs to email it to [engage@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:engage@wirral.gov.uk) for publishing.

**Section 8:** Have you remembered to:

- a) **Select appropriate directorate hyperlink to where your EIA is/will be published** (section 2a)
- b) **Include any potential positive impacts as well as negative impacts?** (section 4)
- c) **Send this EIA to [engage@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:engage@wirral.gov.uk) via your Chief Officer?**
- d) **Review section 4 once consultation has taken place and sent your updated EIA to [engage@wirral.gov.uk](mailto:engage@wirral.gov.uk) via your Chief Officer for re-publishing?**